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23 April 1946

TO: SAINT, WASHINGTON  
FROM: SAINT, LONDON *for*  
SUBJECT: Alecei KURGVEL *✓*

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1. Attached is Final Report

#12, CSDIC (WEA) BAOR, dated 21 December 1945,  
on Subject.

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FINAL REPORT

ON

Hptm Aleceei KURGVEL

(Ref Briefs BAOR/INT/2428(449) dated 31 Aug 45, CIB/INT/2428(449) dated 14 Sep 45 and CIB/INT/B5/2428(449) dated 26 Oct 45. See also CSDIC(WEA) Interrogation Report dated 8 Sep 45, Interim Report 2 dated 13 Sep 45 and Interim Report 6 dated 26 Sep 45.)

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I. PREAMBLE

1. Prisoner is an ardent and patriotic Estonian, with a fanatical, undisguised hatred of the Russians. He gave himself up to the British in the hope that his services would be of use in the event of war with RUSSIA, which he regarded as inevitable. Agents were dropped in ESTONIA by his FAK with instructions to contact him by WT after he had surrendered to the British. He states that he is prepared to help any country willing to assist ESTONIA, and has submitted repeated requests that his knowledge and services be made use of by the British.
2. Prisoner has proved thoroughly cooperative under interrogation, and his information is considered reliable.

II. PERSONAL HISTORY

13 Sep 04	Born at KURESSAARE (Island of SAAREMAA), ESTONIA. Father: Johann, jobbing gardener and baker. Mother: Maria nee TOOMPUU.
1911	Private school in KURESSAARE.
1912-16	Communal school in KURESSAARE.
1914	Passed entrance examination to Gymnasium, but since, when Russian troops moved into ESTONIA, the Gymnasium was evacuated to VOLOGDA, Prisoner remained at the Communal school.

Autumn 17- German Gymnasium in KURESSAARE.  
Dec 18  
1919 Estonian Gymnasium.  
1923 Abitur. Left school.  
29 Sep 23 Entered officers' training school at TALLINN (REVAL) after competitive examination.  
Winter 25/26 Left officers' school after distinguished career; had specialised in intelligence work. Commission antedated to 24 Feb 24.  
Feb-May 26 WT technical officer in Signals Coy.  
May-Aug 26 2IC Signals, Staff of 2 Div at TARTU (DORPAT).  
Aug-Oct 26 Back in TALLINN.  
Oct 26-May 29 OIC Signals Staff of 1 Div at NARVA; also IO of this Div and of NARVA garrison.  
24 Feb 29 Promoted Lt.  
May 29-Mar 31 At Military Academy in TALLINN, which he entered after competitive examination.  
Spring 32 Became KS (Kriegsschule) Diplom-Offizier on submission of thesis on the aircraft reporting system.  
Apr 32 Attended intelligence course with Abt II of Army Staff.  
Aug 33 In ops dept of Staff in TALLINN, and concerned with strategic and tactical intelligence.  
Sep 33-Jan 34 With Staff of 1 Div at RAKVERE, assisting Chief of ops dept.  
24 Feb 34 Promoted Capt.  
Jan 34-Jul 40 In Abt II of Army Staff in TALLINN, first in capacity of Offizier z V. Later he became Leiter, and finally, after two years' experience, Chief of Section A of the Abt, dealing with foreign affairs. In this last capacity he had contact with Maj GIFFEY of the British FPCO at the Legation in TALLINN, to whom he gave information on the German Forces, and such information on the Russians as was available to his section.  
Autumn 39 Intended visit to German Kriegsakademie cancelled owing to outbreak of war.  
24-25 Jun 40 Arrested in Russian Consulate at TALLINN and asked for information on Estonian agents in RUSSIA, and on the activities of various Military Attaches in TALLINN, including the contact between the British Military Attache and the Estonian C in C, Gen LAIDNER. Refused offer to collaborate with the Russians.  
End Jun 40 Cashiered, together with the Chief of Abt II, Obst SAARSEN, by Maj Gen JONSON on instructions from the Russians. The Russians had replaced LAIDNER by Maj Gen JONSON.  
3-4 Jul 40 Escaped by sea with family to HAMBURG and went to BERLIN, with the aid of Korv Kap CELLARIUS (Prisoner at OSDIC(WEA)). Offered his services to the Abw against RUSSIA in ESTONIA. (Prisoner had known CELLARIUS when the latter was working for the Abw in ESTONIA.)

Aug 40 Sent on "rest-cure" to KARLSBAD, and given a German passport in the name of Alexander KUMBEL, merchant of EAST RUSSIA, in order to avoid meeting Russian Col TUPIKOV former Military Attache in ESTONIA, who was then in BERLIN. TUPIKOV knew Prisoner well.

Sep 40 Sent to IG Farben, Volkswirtschaftliche Abteilung (VOWI). Since Prisoner refused to become a naturalised German, he was provided with an officially-forged passport in his real name. His work at VOWI involved the evaluation of Russian periodicals with a view to ascertaining the industrial position of that country, with particular reference to raw materials.

Jan-Feb 41 Contact with Obstlt Dr GRÄBE of Abw II, who was working on political questions arising out of the occupation of ESTONIA by the Germans. Prisoner provided him with a list of reliable Estonians who could, if necessary, form a provisional government. He also visited refugee camps in order to find suitable young Estonians for missions in ESTONIA in the event of war between RUSSIA AND GERMANY. This work was later taken over by the Estonian Col KURGY.

1 Jun 41 Asked by Kory Kap CELLARIUS (Prisoner at GSDIC(WEA)), then Leiter KO FINLAND, to join him in FINLAND and work for the liberation of ESTONIA.

14 Jun 41 Prisoner agreed to this and travelled to HELSINKI via STETTIN. The Finnish Government knew of Prisoner's former activity with the Estonian IS. His duties in ~~FINLAND~~ FINLAND comprised the training of Estonian volunteer WT operators, and the preparation of code and signal plans. WT operators and Prisoner wore Finnish uniform.

Early Sep 41 After the occupation of TALLINN by the Germans, Prisoner returned to that town, still working as WT officer KO FINLAND. His duties consisted in supervising and training Estonian and Russian volunteers, the preparation of codes and the control of WT traffic with agents employed. Prisoner refused a further offer to become a naturalised German, but made a request to the Finnish Government for naturalisation. Attached to Anst REVAL and worked in close cooperation with Finnish IS.

Nov 43 With FAK 102 (Obstlt HOPF) as WT officer, and was concerned with the training and dropping of Russian volunteer agents.

Jul 44 FAK 102 left ESTONIA, and Prisoner by agreement was allowed to remain in his native country.

14 Aug 44 Released from Finnish Army and reported to Military Reporting Centre in TALLINN. Obst SOODLA, Inspector General of the Estonian 20 SS Div, promised to send Prisoner straight to the Front as a bn comd in the Estonian Frontier (Guard Grenzschutz). In the meantime,

an LO between all Estonian forces and the German force in NARVA (Gen GRASSER) was required. Prisoner was asked to fill this position because of his knowledge of foreign languages and his contacts with foreign officers. He retained the rank of Capt, wearing Finnish uniform with German shoulder-tabs, and the Estonian national emblem. He was subsequently given an SS paybook and the rank of Hptstuf, but maintains that he was treated as an Estonian Capt.

Mid Sep 44 Ordered to TALLINN by Heeresgruppe NORD after the Finnish Armistice, to assist Finnish refugees.

22 Sep 44 Reported back to the NARVA force, which had been moved to MOISAKULA, on the Southern frontier of ESTONIA, and was preparing to evacuate ESTONIA.

23 Sep 44 Left TALLINN for LIBAU, where on arrival he attempted without success to contact the IC of Heeresgruppe NORD. He contacted Kap Lt NEUMANN who was with FAK 166 M in LIBAU.

30 Sep 44 Went to KUESSAARE to find out the military position there.

3 Oct 44 Left KUESSAARE for MITAU (JELGAVA), and from there went to Heeresgruppe NORD. Returned to LIBAU, where he joined FAK 166 M, which gradually withdrew into GERMANY. His duties here involved the recruiting and training of refugee Estonians for intelligence work against RUSSIA. Very little was achieved owing to the constant movement of the Front.

Dec 44 Sent agents to ESTONIA and LATVIA, but no WT contact with them was established.

20-24 Apr 45 Fifteen agents dropped in ESTONIA. No WT contact established. These men were equipped with double codes, unknown to the Germans, so that if Prisoner was successful in contacting the British or American authorities as he planned, the agents could take up work for the Allies immediately.

3 May 45 Copies of double codes buried at VOSSHÖHLEN, near WERDEN.

4 May 45 Started on journey to contact British authorities. Reported to British troops in HAMBURG after passing through the German front line.

5 May 45 Interrogated at HAMBURG by British officers, where he divulged details of plans, and of agents dropped in ESTONIA.

9 May 45 Interned at ALTONA.

25 May 45 Interned at ISERBRUCK.

3 Jun-end Aug 45 Interned at NEUMÜNSTER.

1 Sep 45 Arrived at CSDIC(WEA).

### III. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Prisoner states that he has refused repeated offers to become a naturalised German. He was therefore not a member of the Party. He adds that he protested against being given SS rank, but without avail.

CSDIC(WEA)

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for Colonel GS  
Commandant CSDIC(WEA)